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1. A portable computer system, comprising:
- one or more battery connectors,
- a portable base computer comprising:
- a wireless receiver,
- a processor having a data input operatively connected to the wireless receiver and having a power input operatively connected to at least one of the battery connectors,
- mass storage operatively connected to the processor, and
- a wireless transmitter operatively connected to the processor, and
- a portable user interface module, comprising:
- a wireless receiver,
- a two-dimensional display having a data input operatively connected to the wireless receiver of the portable user interface module and having a power input operatively connected to at least one of the battery connectors,
- a user interface device, and
- a wireless transmitter operatively connected to the user interface device.
2. The portable computer system of claim 1 further including a mechanical connector operative to hold the base computer in contact with the user interface module.
3. The portable computer system of claim 1 further including an electrical connector operative to electrically connect the base computer to the user interface module.
4. The portable computer system of claim 3 wherein the electrical connector includes bypass contacts operative to bypass the wireless transmitters and receivers of the base computer and user interface module.
5. The portable computer system of claim 1 wherein the base computer includes a display primitive generator operatively connected between the processor and the wireless transmitter of the base computer, and wherein the display primitive generator is operative to send display primitives to the user interface module that are capable of displaying a pointing-device-

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driven, general-purpose, window-based operating system screen on the display of the user interface module.

6. The portable computer system of claim 1 further including at least a portion of a local area network operatively connected between the processor and the display, and wherein the base computer system is operative to communicate with the user interface module using packet traffic on the local area network.

7. The portable computer system of claim 1 wherein the display has a resolution of at least 640x480 pixels.

8. The portable computer system of claim 1 wherein the user interface device comprises a keyboard that includes separate keys for all of the letters of the alphabet and the ten decimal digits.

9. The portable computer system of claim 1 wherein the user interface device comprises a pointing device.

10. The portable computer system of claim 1 wherein the portable base computer further includes a rectangular housing for supporting its processor, mass storage, receiver and transmitter, wherein the user interface module further includes a rectangular housing for supporting its display device, user interface device, receiver and transmitter, and wherein one of the two largest faces of the housing of the base computer is of substantially the same size and shape as one of the two largest faces of the housing of the user interface module.

11. The portable computer system of claim 1 wherein the portable base computer system includes the at least one of the battery connectors that is operatively connected to the processor and wherein the user interface module includes the at least one of the battery connectors operatively connected to the display.

12. The portable computer system of claim 1 wherein the wireless transmitters are obstacle-tolerant transmitters and the wireless receivers are obstacle-tolerant receivers.

13. A portable base computer system for use with a mobile user interface module that includes a two-dimensional display, a wireless receiver, a wireless transmitter, and a housing, the portable base computer comprising:

a wireless receiver constructed and adapted to communicate with the wireless transmitter of the user interface module,

a processor responsive to commands received from the wireless receiver and including a power input responsive to a battery contact,

mass storage operatively connected to the processor,

a wireless transmitter responsive to the processor and constructed and adapted to communicate with the wireless receiver of the user interface module, and

a housing for holding the processor, the memory, the storage, the receiver, and the transmitter.

14. The portable base computer system of claim 13 further including at least one mechanical docking connector mounted relative to the housing and operative to hold the base computer in contact with the user interface module.

15. The portable base computer system of claim 13 further including at least one electrical docking connector mounted relative to the housing and operative to electrically connect the portable base computer system to the user interface module.

16. The portable base computer system of claim 15 wherein the electrical connector includes bypass contacts operative to bypass the wireless transmitters and receivers of the portable base computer system and user interface module.

17. The portable base computer system of claim 13 wherein the portable base computer system includes a display primitive generator to which the wireless transmitter of the base

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computer system is responsive to send the display primitives to the user interface module, and wherein the display primitive generator is operative to send display primitives that are capable of displaying a pointing-device-driven, general-purpose, window-based operating system screen on the display of the user interface module.

18. The portable base computer system of claim 13 further including at least a portion of a local area network operatively connected between the processor and the display, and wherein the portable base computer system is operative to communicate with the user interface module using packet traffic on the local area network.

19. The portable base computer system of claim 13 wherein the portable base computer system further includes a rectangular housing for supporting its processor, mass storage, receiver and transmitter, and wherein one of the two largest faces of the housing of the portable base computer system is of substantially the same size and shape as one of two largest faces of a housing of the user interface module.

20. The portable base computer of claim 13 wherein the wireless transmitters are obstacle-tolerant transmitters, and the wireless receivers are obstacle-tolerant receivers.

21. A user interface module for use with a portable base computer system that includes a processor, mass storage, an obstacle-tolerant wireless transmitter, an obstacle-tolerant wireless receiver, and a housing bearing at least one docking connector, the user interface module comprising:

an obstacle-tolerant wireless receiver constructed and adapted to communicate with the wireless transmitter of the portable base computer system,

a two-dimensional display responsive to the wireless receiver,

a user interface device,

an obstacle-tolerant wireless transmitter responsive to the user interface device, and being constructed and adapted to communicate with the wireless receiver of the portable base computer system, and

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at least one docking connector constructed and adapted to mate with directly to the connector of the portable base computer system.

22. The user interface module of claim 21 wherein the docking connector is a mechanical connector operative to hold the portable base computer system in contact with the user interface module.

23. The user interface module of claim 21 wherein the docking connector is an electrical connector operative to electrically connect the portable base computer system to the user interface module.

24. The user interface module of claim 23 wherein the electrical connector includes bypass contacts operative to bypass the wireless transmitters and receivers of the portable base computer system and user interface module.

25. The user interface module of claim 21 wherein the display has a resolution of at least 640x480 pixels.

26. The user interface module of claim 21 wherein the user interface device comprises a keyboard that includes separate keys for all of the letters of the alphabet and the ten decimal digits.

27. The user interface module of claim 21 wherein the user interface device further includes a pointing device.

28. The user interface module of claim 21 wherein the user interface module includes a display primitive decoder responsive to display primitives received from the base computer system to display a pointing-device-driven, general-purpose, window-based operating system screen on the display.

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29. The user interface module of claim 21 wherein the user interface module further includes a rectangular housing for supporting its display device, user interface device, receiver and transmitter, and wherein one of the two largest faces of the housing of the user interface module is of substantially the same size and shape as one of two largest faces of a housing of the portable base computer system.

30. A portable computer system, comprising:

portable means for processing application programs at a first location in response to user interface signals, the means for processing being readily transportable in hand luggage,

first wireless communication means for transmitting results from the portable means for processing and for relaying received user interface signals to the portable means for processing,

second wireless communication means for receiving the results from the first communication means and for transmitting the user interface signals to the first wireless communication means, and

portable user interface means responsive to the results received by the second wireless communication means to display graphical user interface constructs on a two-dimensional screen

31. The portable computer system of claim 30 wherein the portable means for processing, the first and second wireless communication means, and the portable user interface together weigh under about nine pounds.

32. The portable computer system of claim 31 wherein the portable means for processing, the first and second wireless communication means, and the portable user interface together fit within a space of less than about two inches thick by about nine inches by about twelve inches.

33. The portable computer system of claim 30 further including means for together transporting the portable means for processing, the first and second wireless communication means, and the portable user interface in a mechanically and electrically docked state.

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34. The portable computer system of claim 30 further including means for housing the portable means for processing, further including means for housing the user interface means, and wherein one of the two largest faces of the means for housing the portable means for processing is of substantially the same size and shape as one of the two largest faces of the means for housing the user interface means.

35. The portable computer system of claim 30 further including means included in the portable means for processing to generate display primitives and send the display primitives to the user interface means via the first and second communication means.

36. A computing method, comprising the steps of:
processing application programs in a base computer system at a first location,
communicating results from the application programs by a wireless communication
method to a user interface module remote from the base computer system,
displaying results of the step of communicating on a screen of the user interface module,
together transporting the base computer system and the user interface module to a second
location,
processing application programs in the base station at the second location,
again communicating results from the application programs to the user interface module,
and
displaying results of the step of again communicating on a screen of the user interface
module.

37. The computing method of claim 36 wherein the step of together transporting
transports the base station and the user interface module in a mechanically and electrically
docked state.

38. The computing method of claim 36 wherein the step of communicating results
communicates display primitives.